

初級英語教材に用いられる語彙・単語連鎖に関する基礎調査

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1. 研究背景と目的

日本の EFL 教育のみならず、コミュニケーション能力の育成を目指す小学校英語活動にとって、学習者の基礎語彙力の習得と増強は重要となる。Coady & Huckin (1997) が“Vocabulary is central to language.”と指摘し、Nation (2001)や Schmitt (1997)も語彙学習の重要性を示唆している。さらに、多くの研究者が学習者の流暢さを育成するために定型表現、いわゆるフレーズや連語の知識の重要性を指摘している (Schmitt, 2004; Wray, 2002)。

2014 年度から逐次改革推進が始められた「グローバル化に対応した英語教育改革実施計画」では、小学 5、6 年の英語の教科化を 2018 年度から先行実施し、2020 年度より全面实施することとなり、小学校における英語教育の拡充強化を図ることとなった。この中で、小学校外国語活動の目的は、中学年では「コミュニケーション能力の素地を養い」、高学年では「初歩的な英語の運用能力を養う」とある。また、中学校では現在の高校と同様、授業を英語で行うことを基本にする見通しとなり、大学入試では 4 技能を評価する動きが加速するであろうと考えられる。これに伴い、英語教員の英語力・指導力向上、および教員養成の改善充実が不可欠となってくるであろう。

しかし、小学校英語活動において、どのような語彙・定型表現を選定し、どの段階でどの程度の分量の語彙を提示するのかという点は明らかにされていない。小学校英語活動で扱うべき具体的な言語材料・ねらい・指導法などは、系統的に提示されておらず、各自治体や学校、教師に委ねられている (岩井, 2011; 石川, 2005) のが現状である。

このような状況のもと、近年、語彙表を開発する研究は増加しており、様々な観点に基づいて語彙選定がなされている。中條・西垣・内山・岩楯・山崎 (2005) は、海外の絵辞書より「小学生のための日常生活語彙リスト」を作成し、上位 500 語を提案している。石川 (2005) は、英語の教科書や絵辞書に加え、日本語の小学校教科書や作文からコーパスを構築し、語彙表の開発を行った。一方、定型表現表の開発に関しては、仁科・藤原・松岡 (2009) が、前置詞と WH 疑問詞の定型表現・フレーズの抽出を試みているが、前置詞は 6 種、WH 疑問詞は 3 種のみと限定的な研究となっている。

このような現状を鑑み、本研究では、Oxford 社から出版された英語テキスト *WE CAN* (7 レベル) のコーパスを作成し、使用されている語彙、および、これまで試みのなかった単語連鎖の抽出を行い、語彙・単語連鎖リストを提示することを目的とした。

2. 使用語彙リストと使用フレーズリストの作成

本調査では、以下のテキストを調査対象として、テキストコーパスを構築した。

1) *WE CANS* (2009 年)

5) *WE CAN4* (2009 年)

2) *WE CAN1* (2009 年)

6) *WE CAN5* (2009 年)

3) *WE CAN*2 (2009 年)

7) *WE CAN*6 (2009 年)

4) *WE CAN*3 (2009 年)

上記のテキストコーパスを用いて、以下についての報告を行う。

- 1) 各テキストレベルでの使用語彙・使用頻度のリスト作成
- 2) 各テキストレベルでの N-gram による使用フレーズのリスト作成

2-1 使用語彙・使用頻度のリスト作成

*WE CAN*は学習対象者に合わせてレベル分けされており、現在レベル S から 6 までが入手可能である。本調査では S から 6 までの全てのテキストを使用し、分析を行った。1) の手順として、はじめに、各レベルのテキスト情報を全て書き起こし、レベルごとにテキストファイルで保存した。電子テキスト化する際に OCR(Optical Character Recognition)ソフトなどの使用も考えられるが、児童を対象とするテキストは絵や写真も多く、データが不正確になることと大幅な修正を要することを考慮し、今回はテキスト本文以外に、図表等に記載された語彙も含み、テキストに含まれる全ての語彙を手入力し、コーパス化することとした。次に、Wordsmith (version 6.0)を使用し、各レベルにおける語彙を使用頻度順に取り出し、各単語の使用頻度を調べた。本調査では、使用率上位 70%までの語彙のみを抽出し、テキスト間 (S, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6) での語彙使用頻度を比較した。

表 1 はテキストの総語数を、表 2 は各テキストレベルでの各語彙の使用頻度を示す。

表 1 各テキストの総ワード数

| Text Level | Type | Token | Text Level | Type | Token |
|-----------------|------|-------|-----------------|-------|--------|
| <i>We Can</i> S | 842 | 4,367 | <i>We Can</i> 4 | 912 | 5,950 |
| <i>We Can</i> 1 | 489 | 2,627 | <i>We Can</i> 5 | 1,300 | 9,688 |
| <i>We Can</i> 2 | 597 | 3,494 | <i>We Can</i> 6 | 1,629 | 11,071 |
| <i>We Can</i> 3 | 742 | 4,534 | | | |

表 2 テキスト使用率上位 70%リスト (A から AWAY まで)

| Text Level | S | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | Text Level | S | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------------|----|---|----|----|----|----|----|
| A | 152 | 52 | 103 | 114 | 176 | 224 | 278 | ANIMAL | 2 | | 6 | | | | 13 |
| ABOUT | | 7 | 11 | 15 | 21 | 55 | 130 | ANIMALS | 6 | | 11 | 8 | | | 10 |
| ACHES | 7 | | | | | | | ANSWER | | | | 9 | 11 | 26 | 27 |
| ACT | | 13 | 15 | 7 | | 11 | | ANSWERS | | | | 7 | | | |
| ACTION | 11 | | 14 | 13 | | | 32 | ANY | 2 | | | | | | 14 |
| ACTIONS | | 6 | | | | | | APPLE | 2 | | | | | | |
| ADD | | | | | 17 | | | AROUND | | | | | | | 15 |
| ADVENTURE | | | | | | 12 | 9 | ART | | | | | | | 10 |
| AGAIN | 3 | 6 | | | | 13 | 24 | AS | | | | 21 | | 15 | 15 |
| ALL | 3 | | | | | | 14 | ASK | | 5 | 10 | 17 | 10 | 10 | |
| ALPHABET | 12 | | | | | | | AT | 6 | 5 | | 23 | 18 | 33 | 28 |
| AMAZING | | | | | | | 50 | ATTENTION | 36 | | | | | | |
| AMUSEMENT | 6 | | | | | | | AU | | | | | 8 | | |
| AN | 8 | | 6 | 9 | 10 | 25 | 26 | AUGUST | | | | | 8 | | |
| AND | 257 | 144 | 128 | 151 | 178 | 274 | 385 | AWAY | 18 | | | | 6 | | 10 |

表2. テキスト使用率上位 70%リスト (BABA から DOING まで)

(前ページに続く)

| Text Level | S | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | Text Level | S | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|--------------|----|----|----|-----|----|-----|----|
| BABA | | | | | | | 10 | CHANT | | 14 | 15 | 50 | 38 | | |
| BACK | 7 | | | | | | 10 | CHARACTERS | 6 | | | | | | |
| BACKPACKING | | | | | | | 9 | CHARADES | 4 | | | | | | |
| BAD | 2 | | | | | | | CHECK | | | | | | | 12 |
| BANANAS | | | | 21 | | | | CHICKEN | 3 | | | | | | |
| BASEBALL | 2 | | | | | | | CHINA | | | | | | | 9 |
| BASKET | 2 | | | | | | | CHOOSE | | | | | | | 12 |
| BAT | 2 | | | | | | | CHORES | 4 | | | 7 | | | |
| BATH | | | | 7 | | | | CHRIS | | | | | | | 17 |
| BE | 26 | | | 12 | | 42 | 31 | CHRISTMAS | | 6 | | | | | |
| IS | 24 | 9 | 34 | 26 | 42 | 84 | 122 | CIRCLE | 2 | 5 | | | | | |
| ARE | 6 | 9 | 35 | 12 | 26 | 52 | 57 | CLAP | | 7 | | | | | |
| WAS | | | 6 | | 39 | 73 | 79 | CLASS | | | | | | | 19 |
| WERE | | | | | 15 | 26 | 15 | CLEANED | | | | | 7 | | |
| BEACH | 2 | | | | | | | CLIMB | | | | | | | 9 |
| BEAR | 4 | 14 | | | | | | CLIMBED | 2 | | | | | | |
| BEAT | | | | | 8 | | | CLIMBING | | | | | | | 9 |
| BEAUTIFUL | 8 | | 8 | | | | 10 | CLOSE | 2 | | | | | | |
| BECAUSE | | | | | | 28 | 20 | CLOTHES | 2 | | | | | | |
| BED | | | 6 | 21 | 16 | | | COFFEE | | | | | 8 | | |
| BEEN | | | | | | 14 | | COLD | 4 | | | | 6 | | |
| BEGIN | | | 6 | | | | | COLOR | 3 | | 6 | | | | |
| BEGINNING | 2 | | | | | | | COLORS | 6 | | | | | | |
| BEST | | | | | | | 10 | COME | 3 | | | | | 10 | |
| BICYCLE | 2 | | | | | | | COMES | 6 | | | | | | |
| BIG | 2 | | 14 | | | 10 | 21 | COMING | 21 | | | | | | |
| BIKE | | | | 7 | | | | COMMENTS | | | | | | | 21 |
| BINGO | | 7 | | | 24 | | | COMMON | 5 | | | | | | |
| BIRD | | | | | 6 | | | COMPUTER | 3 | | | | | 12 | 10 |
| BIRTHDAY | 2 | | | 11 | | | | COMPUTERS | | | | | | 17 | |
| BIRTHDAY'S | | | | 8 | | | | CONJUNCTIONS | | | | | | | 11 |
| BLUE | 2 | | | | | | | COOKED | | | | | 8 | | |
| BODY | 6 | | | | | | 14 | COOKIE | | 7 | | | | | |
| BONGO | | | | | 13 | | | COOKIES | | 6 | | | | | |
| BOOK | 8 | | | | 7 | | | COPY | | 6 | | | 21 | | |
| BOOKS | 3 | | | | | 16 | 9 | CORNER | | | | | | | 11 |
| BOW | 16 | | | | | | | CORRECT | | | | | | | 11 |
| BRAINSTORMING | | | | | | | 9 | COULD | | | | | | 46 | 27 |
| BREAKFAST | | | | | 10 | | | COUNT | 2 | | | | | | |
| BROKE | | | | | 6 | | | COUNTRY | | | | | | | 9 |
| BROWN | | | | | 7 | | | COW | 6 | | | | 8 | | |
| BRUSH | | | | | | | | CUT | 2 | | | | | | |
| BUS | 21 | | | | | | | CUTE | | | | 9 | | | |
| BUT | | | | | | 11 | 37 | D | 4 | | 10 | | | | |
| BY | 2 | | 12 | 25 | 16 | 20 | 27 | DAD | | | | | | | 17 |
| BYE | | 8 | | | | | | DAD'S | | | | 8 | | | |
| C | 5 | | 13 | 9 | | 88 | | DANGEROUS | | | | | | | 10 |
| CABBAGE | | 5 | | | | | | DAY | 4 | | 6 | | 10 | 13 | 26 |
| CALLED | | | | | | | 13 | DAYS | 6 | 5 | | | | | |
| CAN | 58 | 32 | 43 | 76 | 85 | 113 | 86 | DECEMBER | 2 | | | | | | |
| CANDY | 2 | | | | 7 | | | DID | | | | 10 | 24 | 30 | 47 |
| CAR | 2 | | | | | | | DIDN'T | | | | | | | 27 |
| CAT | 3 | | | | 9 | | | DINOSAUR | | | | | | | 30 |
| CATS | | | | | | | 10 | DINOSAURS | | | | | | | 13 |
| CAUGHT | | | | | 8 | | | DISHES | | | | 12 | | | |
| CH | | | | 7 | | | | DO | 30 | 32 | 23 | 112 | 57 | 113 | 80 |
| CHALLENGE | | | | 32 | | | | DOES | | | | 28 | 7 | | |
| CHANGE | | | | | 9 | | | DOING | | | 18 | | | | |

表2. テキスト使用率上位 70%リスト (DOG から HOW まで)

(前ページに続く)

| Text Level | S | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | Text Level | S | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| DOG | 22 | 7 | | | 7 | | 26 | FRIEND | | 9 | | 9 | | 18 | 21 |
| DOGS | 2 | | | | | | 15 | FRIENDS | | | | 9 | | 16 | 14 |
| DOLLARS | | | | | 6 | | | FROM | 4 | 9 | | | 11 | 68 | 28 |
| DON'T | 6 | 6 | | | 10 | 18 | 27 | FUN | | 36 | 42 | | | 22 | |
| DOOR | 2 | | | | | | | FVE | | | | | | 24 | |
| DOUBLE | 3 | | | | | | | G | 5 | 7 | 12 | 10 | | | |
| DOWN | 2 | | | | | | 9 | GAME | 43 | 12 | 24 | | | 13 | |
| DRAGONFLY | 2 | | | | | | | GAMES | 2 | | | | | 14 | |
| DRINK | | | | | 12 | | | GET | | | | 19 | 13 | | |
| DRANK | | | | | 7 | | | GOT | | | | | 13 | | |
| DRAW | 6 | 5 | | | 11 | | | GHOST | 2 | | | | | | |
| DRIVER | 3 | | | | | | | GIRLS | | | | | | | 11 |
| DUCK | 4 | | | | | | | GIVE | | | | | 11 | | |
| E | 5 | 5 | 9 | 60 | | | | GLOBAL | | | | | | | 9 |
| EACH | | | | | | 23 | 16 | GMOVE | 4 | | | | | | |
| EARLY | | | | | 15 | | | GO | 26 | | 12 | 35 | 21 | 41 | 28 |
| EAT | 2 | | | 8 | 12 | | 12 | GOING | | | | | 55 | 11 | 54 |
| EENCY | 18 | | | | | | | WENT | | | | | 12 | 19 | 12 |
| EIGHT | 2 | | | | | | | GOAL | | | | | 54 | | |
| ELEVEN | 2 | | | | | | | GOAT | 2 | | | | | | |
| EMAIL | | | | | | 26 | | GOLD | | | | | | | 9 |
| ENERGY | | | | | | | 9 | GOOD | 3 | 11 | | | | 19 | 25 |
| ENGLISH | | | | | 8 | | | GOODIES | 6 | | | | | | |
| ENVIRONMENT | | | | | | | 12 | GRADE | | | | | 6 | | |
| EROUND | 20 | | | | | | | GRAMMAR | | 6 | | 8 | | 17 | 27 |
| ESSAY | | | | | | | 24 | GREAT | 3 | | | | | 16 | 12 |
| ETC | | | | | | | 18 | GREEN | 2 | | 26 | | 10 | | |
| EVERY | | | | | 7 | | | GREET | 2 | | | | | | |
| EY | | | | | 8 | | | GREETINGS | 6 | | | | | | |
| EYES | 2 | 12 | | | | | | GROW | | | | 10 | | | |
| F | 5 | | | 18 | | | | GUESS | 3 | | | | | | |
| FACTS | | | | | | | 27 | GUESSING | 2 | | | | | | |
| FALSE | | | | | 6 | | | H | 9 | 8 | | | | | |
| FAMILY | 6 | | | | 8 | | | HAND | | 5 | 9 | | | | |
| FAMOUS | | | | | | | 9 | HANDS | 3 | 6 | 7 | | | | |
| FAT | | | 6 | | | | | HAPPY | 2 | | 6 | | | 11 | |
| FAVORITE | 6 | | | | | | 20 | HAT | 2 | | 10 | | | | |
| FCLOCK | 12 | | | | | | | HAVE | 9 | 16 | 12 | | 26 | 53 | 45 |
| FD | | | | | | 40 | | HAS | | | | 7 | | | |
| FEEL | 4 | | | | | 11 | | HAD | | | | | 17 | | |
| FEELINGS | 7 | | | | | | | HE | | | 12 | 30 | | 29 | 87 |
| FEW | 3 | | | | | | | HEAD | | 7 | | | | | |
| FILL | 21 | | | | 6 | 22 | 28 | HEALTHY | | | | | 12 | | |
| FIND | 36 | 6 | 19 | | | | 11 | HELLO | 2 | 9 | | 8 | | | |
| FINDING | | | | 7 | | | | HELP | | | | | | 10 | 14 |
| FINE | | 5 | | | | | | HER | | | | 18 | | 15 | |
| FINGER | 3 | | | 14 | | | | HERE | 3 | | 11 | 7 | 7 | 10 | |
| FIRST | | | | | | 25 | | HE'S | | | | 9 | | | 11 |
| FISH | 5 | 5 | | | | | | HI | | | 8 | | | 24 | |
| FIVE | 2 | 15 | | 9 | 7 | | | HIDDEN | 36 | | | | | | |
| FLOOR | 3 | | | | | | | HIGHEST | | | | | | 13 | |
| FOLLOW | 2 | | | | | | | HINTS | | | | | | 37 | 30 |
| FOLLOWING | | | | 8 | | | | HIS | | 7 | | 19 | | | 27 |
| FOOD | 6 | | | | | | | HOBBIES | 6 | | | | | | |
| FOR | | | | 9 | | 52 | 41 | HOME | | | | 14 | | | 9 |
| FOUR | 2 | | | | | | | HORSE | 3 | | | | 6 | | |
| FREE | | | 13 | | 17 | | 10 | HOT | 7 | | 6 | | | | |
| FRIDAY | 2 | | | | | | | HOUSE | 7 | | 7 | | 19 | 15 | |
| FRIDGE | 2 | | | | | | | HOW | 7 | 16 | 14 | 9 | 51 | 35 | 26 |

表2. テキスト使用率上位 70%リスト (I から P まで)

(前ページに続く)

| Text Level | S | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | Text Level | S | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|--------------|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------------|----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|
| I | 79 | 77 | 109 | 132 | 200 | 417 | 213 | MARILYN | | | | | | | 14 |
| IF | | | 10 | 12 | | 59 | 28 | MARY | | | | | 7 | | |
| I'M | | | | 12 | | | 29 | MATCH | | | | | 6 | | |
| IN | 38 | 15 | 56 | 51 | 65 | 230 | 166 | MATH | | | | | 6 | | |
| INDIVIDUAL | 36 | | | | | | | MATTER | 2 | | | | | | |
| INK | 2 | | | | | | | ME | 4 | | | 14 | 8 | 27 | 18 |
| INTERESTED | | | | | | 52 | | MEET | 2 | 7 | | | | | |
| INTRODUCTION | 5 | | | | | | | MEOOW | 2 | | | | | | |
| INVENTED | | | | | | 17 | | METERS | | | | | | | 11 |
| IT | 69 | 14 | 64 | 22 | 77 | 124 | 96 | MINUTES | | | | | | | 9 |
| ITS | | | | 8 | | | 24 | MISSING | | | | | | 11 | 15 |
| I'VE | | | | | 7 | | 11 | MONDAY | 2 | | | | | | |
| J | 4 | | | 7 | | | | MONKEY | 4 | | | | | | |
| JANUARY | 2 | | | | | | | MONKEYS | | 6 | | | | | |
| JAR | | 8 | | | | | | MONTHS | 6 | | | | | | |
| JINGLE | | | | 7 | | | | MORE | 6 | 8 | 6 | 11 | | 15 | 35 |
| JOANNE | | | | | | 17 | | MORNING | | | | 7 | 16 | | |
| JOBS | 5 | | | 7 | | | | MOST | | | | 7 | | 26 | 25 |
| JUICE | | | | | 10 | | | MOUNTAIN | 22 | | | | | | 15 |
| JULIET | | | | | | 17 | | MOVIE | | | | | | | 30 |
| K | 5 | | | 9 | | | | MUCH | | | | | 17 | | 13 |
| KARATE | | | 6 | | | | | MY | 37 | 18 | 22 | 30 | 60 | 83 | 106 |
| KICKED | | | | | 6 | | | MYSELF | | | | 10 | 9 | | 12 |
| KIDS | | | | | | 15 | | N | 6 | 8 | | | | | |
| KING | 2 | | | | | | | NAME | 6 | 14 | | 25 | 6 | 22 | 16 |
| KNEE | 2 | | | | | | | NAME'S | | | | 11 | | | |
| KNEES | | 8 | | | | | | NATURE | 6 | | | | | | |
| KNOW | | | 9 | | | 10 | 32 | NEIGH | 2 | | | | | | |
| L | 4 | | | | | | | NEVER | | | | | | | 9 |
| LA | | | | 30 | | | | NEW | 37 | | | | 9 | 20 | 9 |
| LAMB | | | | | 8 | | | NICE | 2 | 7 | | | | 11 | |
| LAST | | | | | 20 | | 17 | NINE | 2 | | | | | | |
| LATE | | | | | 8 | | | NO | 8 | | 6 | 13 | 14 | 18 | 16 |
| LEADER | 2 | | 7 | | | | | NOT | | | 9 | | | 26 | 19 |
| LET | | | 8 | | | | | NUMBER | 4 | 6 | | | | 12 | 17 |
| LETTER | 5 | | 15 | | | | | NUMBERS | 7 | | | | | | 12 |
| LETTERS | 37 | 23 | 9 | | | | | O | 17 | 7 | 8 | 10 | | | |
| LIFE | | | | | 11 | | | OCTOPUS | 2 | | | | | | |
| LIGHT | 3 | | 15 | | | | | OF | 13 | 24 | 10 | 15 | 31 | 107 | 119 |
| LIKE | 3 | 23 | | 20 | 36 | 28 | 47 | OFF | | | | | | | 10 |
| LIKED | | | | | | | 10 | OH | | 6 | | | | | |
| LION | 3 | | | | | | | OKAY | | 9 | | | | | |
| LISTEN | 110 | 68 | 57 | 49 | 54 | 86 | 95 | OLD | 6 | 10 | | | | 19 | 9 |
| LISTENING | | | 8 | | | | 10 | ON | 26 | 8 | 8 | 7 | 20 | 51 | 55 |
| LITTLE | | 19 | | | 21 | 12 | | ONE | 3 | 14 | 19 | 25 | 15 | 27 | 57 |
| LIVE | | | | 8 | 12 | 12 | 11 | ONLINE | | | | | | 16 | |
| LONG | | | | | | | 14 | ONLY | | | 9 | | | | 10 |
| LOOK | | | 12 | | | | 17 | OPEN | 3 | | | | | | 10 |
| LOST | | | | | 6 | | | OPINION | | | | | 16 | | 14 |
| LOT | | | | | | 11 | | OPPOSITE | 2 | | | | | | |
| LOVE | | | 7 | | | | | OPPOSITES | 7 | | | | | | |
| LOWEST | | | | | | 11 | | OR | | 6 | 22 | 25 | 31 | 22 | 59 |
| LUNCH | | | | 9 | | | | OTHER | 8 | | | | | 28 | 23 |
| M | 5 | 6 | | | | 18 | | OUR | | | | | | | 14 |
| MAKE | 4 | 16 | | | 8 | 62 | 84 | OUT | 2 | 16 | 17 | 21 | | 15 | 9 |
| MADE | | | | | 9 | 47 | | OVER | | | | | 7 | | |
| MAGIC | | | | 10 | | | | OWN | | | | | 14 | 28 | 13 |
| MAKING | | | | | | | 9 | OX | | | 6 | | | | |
| MANY | | 7 | | | 23 | 18 | 17 | P | 5 | | 10 | | | | |

表2. テキスト使用率上位 70%リスト (PAGE から SIX まで)

(前ページに続く)

| Text Level | S | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | Text Level | S | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| PAGE | 3 | | | | | | | REAL | | | | 8 | | | |
| PAINS | 6 | | | | | | | REALLY | | | | | | | 10 |
| PAINT | 2 | | | | | | | RECYCLE | | | | | | | 9 |
| PAIRS | | 11 | 23 | | 17 | 30 | 41 | RED | | | 10 | | | | |
| PAPER | 3 | | | | | | | REMEMBER | | | 6 | | | 11 | |
| PARKS | 12 | | | | | | | REPORT | | | | | | | 13 |
| PART | 6 | | | | | 16 | | REVIEW | 36 | 6 | 6 | | | | |
| PARTNER | | 9 | 12 | 17 | 25 | 15 | 29 | RHYTHMS | | 8 | 8 | 8 | | | |
| PARTY | | | | | 7 | 21 | | RIGHT | | | | | 7 | | |
| PARTIES | 6 | | | | | | | ROAR | | | 9 | | | | |
| PASS | 2 | | | | | | | ROBOT | 2 | | | | | | |
| PASSPORT | | | | | 6 | | | ROBOTS | | 9 | | | | | |
| PAST | | | | | 13 | | | ROCK | | | | | | | 14 |
| PECK | 2 | | | | | | | ROMEO | | | | | | 25 | |
| PEOPLE | 8 | | | | 6 | 25 | 39 | ROOM | 9 | | | | | | |
| PEPPERS | 3 | | | | | | | ROOSTER | 2 | | | | | | |
| PERSON | | | | | | 14 | 13 | ROUND | 8 | | | | | | |
| PET | | 7 | | | | | 16 | S | 5 | | | 7 | | | 11 |
| PETS | 6 | | | | | | | SANDWICHES | 2 | | | | | | |
| PETER | 19 | | | | | | | SAT | | | 6 | | | | |
| PHONE | | | | | 6 | | | SATURDAY | 3 | | | | | | |
| PHONICS | 6 | 8 | 12 | 9 | | | | SAY | 45 | 36 | 31 | 36 | 17 | 39 | 46 |
| PIANO | 2 | | 10 | | | | | SAYING | 3 | | | | | | |
| PICKED | 3 | | | | | | | SAYS | 26 | | 35 | 21 | 55 | | 14 |
| PICKLED | 3 | | | | | | | SAID | | | | | | | 10 |
| PICTURE | 36 | | | | | | | SCARIEST | | | | | | | 9 |
| PICTURES | | | | | 20 | 17 | 27 | SCHOOL | | | | | 40 | | |
| PIPER | 19 | | | | | | | SCISSORS | 2 | | | | | | |
| PLACE | | | | | | | 10 | SEA | 2 | | | 10 | | 17 | 13 |
| PLAY | 7 | | 22 | 12 | 17 | 23 | 14 | SEASIDE | 6 | | | | | | |
| PLAYING | | | 8 | | | | | SEASONS | 6 | | | | | | |
| PLAYED | | | | | 10 | | | SEE | 2 | | 12 | 30 | 7 | 20 | 32 |
| PLAYFUL | | | | | | | 9 | SAW | | | | | 11 | | |
| PLEASE | 2 | 10 | | 9 | 7 | 14 | | SEEN | | | | | | | 19 |
| PLUS | | | | | | | 11 | SENSATIONS | 6 | | | | | | |
| POINT | 36 | 26 | 21 | 39 | | 22 | | SENTENCE | | | | | | | 11 |
| POINTS | | | | | | | 11 | SENTENCES | | | 6 | 9 | | 15 | 21 |
| POSITION | 7 | | | | | | | SEVEN | 2 | 7 | | | 8 | | |
| PRACTICE | | 12 | 14 | 15 | 42 | 11 | 11 | SHAPE | 2 | 7 | | | | | |
| PRACTICED | | | | | 14 | | | SHAPES | 7 | | | | | | |
| PREPOSITIONS | 5 | | | | | | | SHARING | 6 | | | | | | |
| PRESENT | | | | | 19 | | 18 | SHE | 27 | | | 22 | 14 | 36 | |
| PRESENTATION | | | | | | | 9 | SHEEP | 4 | | | | | | |
| PROFILE | | | | | | 10 | | SHE'S | | | 8 | | | | |
| PUPPY | 2 | | | | | | | SHIP | | | | | | 15 | |
| PUT | 3 | | | | | | | SHIRO | | | | | | | 24 |
| QUACK | 2 | | | | | | | SHIRT | 2 | | | | | | |
| QUEEN | 3 | | | | | | | SHOES | 2 | | | | | | |
| QUESTION | | | | | 6 | | | SHORT | 2 | | | | | | 11 |
| QUESTIONS | | | | 10 | 14 | 36 | 35 | SHOULD | | | | | 10 | | 11 |
| QUIET | 2 | | | | | | | SHOULDN'T | | | | | 8 | | |
| QUIETLY | 36 | | | | | | | SHOW | 7 | | | | | | |
| R | 5 | | | | 6 | | | SHOWING | 3 | | | | | | |
| RABBIT | 3 | | | | | | | SILENT | | | | 10 | | | |
| RAIN | 33 | | | | 8 | | | SING | 41 | 22 | 10 | | | 17 | 12 |
| RAINBOW | | | | | 7 | | | SINGING | 3 | | | | | | |
| READ | 2 | | 11 | 31 | 52 | 52 | 56 | SISTER | 2 | | | | | | |
| READING | | | | 10 | | 10 | 14 | SIX | 2 | | | 10 | 12 | | |

表2. テキスト使用率上位 70%リスト (SIZES から WATCH まで)

(前ページに続く)

| Text Level | S | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | Text Level | S | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------------|----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| SIZES | 6 | | | | | | | THREE | 5 | 11 | 11 | 16 | 11 | 12 | 31 |
| SMALL | 3 | | | 9 | 7 | | | THURSDAY | 2 | | | | | | |
| SNAKE | 2 | | | | | | | TIDY | 2 | | | | | | |
| SNOWMAN | | 6 | | | | | | TIGER | 3 | | | | | | |
| SO | | | | | 8 | | 28 | TIME | 92 | 41 | 41 | 69 | | 11 | 46 |
| SOCCER | 2 | | 7 | | | | | TITANIC | | | | | | 16 | |
| SOME | 3 | | | | 18 | | | TO | 18 | 36 | 42 | 75 | 115 | 255 | 256 |
| SOMETHING | | | 7 | | | | 14 | TODAY | 5 | 11 | 6 | | | 10 | |
| SONG | 5 | 13 | | | 10 | | | TOES | | 8 | | | | | |
| SONGS | 3 | | | | | | | TOO | | | | | | 16 | 17 |
| SOUND | 5 | | | | | | | TOOLBOX | | 6 | | | | | 10 |
| SOUNDS | | 16 | | | | | | TOPIC | 36 | | | | | | |
| SPACE | | | | | | 11 | | TOUCH | 3 | 7 | | | | | |
| SPELL | | | 7 | | | | | TOWN | 2 | | | | | | |
| SPIDER | 21 | | | | | | | TOY | 3 | | | | | | |
| SPORT | | | | 8 | | | | TOYS | 7 | | | | | | |
| SPORTS | 7 | | | 13 | | 10 | 21 | TRACE | | 6 | | | | | |
| SPOUT | 2 | | | | | | | TRAIN | 2 | | | | | | |
| STAR | 2 | | | | | | | TRANSPORT | 6 | | | | | | |
| STATIONERY | 6 | | | | | | | TRAVEL | | | | | | | 13 |
| STAYED | | | | | 7 | | | TRIP | | | | 6 | | | |
| STOP | | | 8 | | | | | YARD | 2 | | | | | | |
| STORE | | | | | 15 | | | YEAR | | | | | 20 | | 14 |
| STORY | | | | | | 36 | 53 | YEARS | 2 | | | | | 11 | 13 |
| STORYBOOK | 6 | | | | | | | YELLOW | | | 7 | | | | |
| STRONG | | | | | | | 9 | YES | 12 | | | 15 | 11 | 23 | 15 |
| STUDIED | | | | | 8 | | | YESTERDAY | | | | 14 | | | |
| SUBJECT | | | | | 8 | | | YOU | 53 | 45 | 71 | 167 | 125 | 218 | 212 |
| SUN | 3 | 7 | | | | | | YOUR | 25 | 37 | 26 | 64 | 45 | 98 | 113 |
| SUNDAY | 3 | | | | | | | YOU'RE | | | | 9 | | | |
| SUNNY | | 6 | | | | | | YOURSELF | | | | 12 | | | 11 |
| SURE | 2 | | | | | | | Z | 4 | 7 | | | | | |
| T | 6 | | 12 | 14 | | | | ZEBRA | 2 | | | | | | |
| TABLE | 4 | | | | | | | ZOO | 6 | | | | | | 14 |
| TAKE | 2 | | | 14 | | 14 | 13 | TRUCK | 3 | | | | | | |
| TALK | 37 | 13 | 9 | 10 | 9 | | 16 | TRUE | | | | | 8 | | |
| TALKS | | 13 | 22 | | | | | TRY | | | | 10 | | | |
| TEA | | | | | 6 | | | TUESDAY | 2 | | | | | | |
| TEACHER | 2 | | 8 | 7 | | 10 | 11 | TURN | | | 6 | | | | |
| TEDDY | | 12 | | | | | | TV | | | | | | | 24 |
| TEETH | | | | | 7 | | 9 | TWELVE | 2 | | | | | | |
| TELL | 3 | | | | | 10 | 21 | TWO | 4 | 15 | 21 | 20 | 13 | 37 | 35 |
| TEMPERATURE | | | | | | 17 | | U | 2 | | 8 | 8 | | | |
| TEN | 2 | | | | | | | UGLY | | | 6 | | | | |
| TENNIS | 3 | | | 7 | | | | UNIT | | 19 | 16 | 16 | 10 | | 27 |
| TENSE | | | | | 12 | | | UNITS | | | 6 | | | | |
| THAN | | | | | | | 13 | UP | 4 | | | 28 | 12 | | 19 |
| THANK | 2 | | | 8 | | | | USE | | | 13 | 11 | | 27 | 19 |
| THAT | 8 | | 16 | | 24 | 36 | 34 | USING | | | | | | | 23 |
| THAT'S | | | | | | | 13 | USUALLY | | | | 8 | | | |
| THE | 220 | 125 | 188 | 190 | 148 | 471 | 604 | V | 5 | | | | | | |
| THEIR | | | | | | | 12 | VERB | | | | | 16 | | 12 |
| THEM | | | | | | 13 | 37 | VERBS | 12 | | | | 10 | | |
| THEN | | | | 11 | 31 | 14 | 24 | VERY | | | | | | 24 | 24 |
| THERE | 2 | | | | 30 | 24 | 29 | VIOLIN | 2 | | | | | | |
| THESE | 2 | | 6 | | | | | VISIT | | | | 9 | | | |
| THEY | | | 6 | 13 | 11 | 13 | 68 | W | 5 | | | | | | |
| THIEVES | | | | | | | 9 | WALK | 2 | | | | | | |
| THINGS | 14 | | 14 | | 6 | 18 | 10 | WANT | 10 | | | 21 | 16 | 64 | 36 |
| THINK | 36 | | | 16 | 9 | | 46 | WASH | 2 | | | 10 | | | |
| THIS | 30 | 6 | 21 | | 40 | 12 | 36 | WATCH | 2 | | | | | | 10 |

表2. テキスト使用率上位 70%リスト (WATCHED から Y まで)

(前ページに続く)

| Text Level | S | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | Text Level | S | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|------------|----|----|----|----|----|-----|----|------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| WATCHED | | | | | 7 | | | WHITE | | | | | 7 | | |
| WATER | 2 | | | | 6 | | 10 | WHO | 3 | 8 | 8 | | 6 | 19 | 10 |
| WAY | 2 | | | | | | | WHY | | | | | 8 | 10 | 25 |
| WE | 6 | | 6 | | 25 | 23 | 34 | WILL | | | | | | 17 | |
| WEAR | 5 | | | | | | | WINDOW | 2 | | | | | | |
| WEARING | | | 13 | | | | | WITCH | 2 | | | | | | |
| WEATHER | 8 | | | | | 29 | | WITH | | 14 | 22 | 20 | 30 | 51 | 63 |
| WEDNESDAY | 2 | | | | | | | WOLVES | | | | | | | 9 |
| WEEK | 6 | | | | | | 9 | WON | | | | | 15 | | |
| WEEKEND | | | | | 6 | | | WORD | 3 | | | 10 | 8 | | |
| WEENCY | 18 | | | | | | | WORDS | 22 | 9 | 27 | 19 | 14 | 18 | 17 |
| WEIRD | 36 | | | | | | | WORKING | | | | | | | 11 |
| WE'RE | | | | | | | 14 | WORLD | | | | | 7 | 19 | 24 |
| WHAT | 76 | 14 | 29 | 54 | 35 | 107 | 82 | WORLD'S | | | | | | | 11 |
| WHAT'S | | | | 13 | | | 9 | WOULD | | | | | 6 | 34 | 11 |
| WHEELS | 17 | | | | | | | WOW | 18 | | | | | | |
| WHEN | 8 | | 15 | 12 | 9 | 43 | 20 | WRITE | 2 | 18 | 9 | 16 | 29 | 43 | 35 |
| WHERE | 3 | | 18 | 12 | 21 | 39 | 13 | WRITING | | | | | | 25 | 12 |
| WHICH | | | | | 19 | | 17 | X | 4 | | | | | | |
| WHISPER | 2 | | | | | | | Y | 4 | | | | | | |

2-2 N-gram による使用フレーズのリスト作成

ある単語の並びから切り出した一定個数の単語の集合または連鎖を N-gram と呼んでいる。例えば、3-gram とは単語の並びの初めから 3 語ずつの集合のことを指す。例えば、Did you get up early this morning? No, I didn't. I got up late this morning. という対話を例にとると、did you get, you get up, get up early, up early this, early this morning, this morning no, morning no I, no I didn't, I didn't I, didn't I got, I got up, got up late, up late this, late this morning の 14 件となる。従って抽出された集合のすべてが意味のある連鎖とは限らない。リストの中からある集合を意味のある連鎖とするかどうかは研究者の判断に委ねられている。上記の例では、例えば get up early, early this morning, no I didn't, got up late, late this morning 等をフレーズと判断することになる。

次のページの表 3 の基礎となる N-gram は、Michael Barlow の開発による Collocate (version 1.0) を用いて抽出した。N-gram では、N の値が高くなるほど出現頻度が低くなるのが一般的である。ここでは *We Can* のレベルごとに、N の値が低いものから出現する最長のものまでを表にまとめて掲載した。各欄には、Collocate で抽出したすべての連鎖のうち、上記で述べたように、意味があるフレーズであると判断できるもののみを列挙した。また、原則的に、2-gram や 3-gram などの N の値が低い欄での掲載の候補となった語句が、より N の値が高い欄のフレーズの一部としても掲載の候補となった場合は、より N の値が高い欄に優先して掲載した。また、各レベルのテキストの出現語彙総数の平均が 6,056 語であることから、表 3 では、その約 0.1% に当たる頻度 6 以上の N-gram のみの掲載とした。以上のような理由で、各 N-gram の枠には、フレーズが 10 件に満たない場合もある。

表3. 各テキストに見られる使用フレーズリスト

| | LEVEL 5 | | LEVEL 1 | | LEVEL 2 | | LEVEL 3 | | LEVEL 4 | | LEVEL 5 | | LEVEL 6 | |
|---------|-----------|---------------------------|-----------|--------------------|-----------|--------------------|-----------|----------------------|-----------|----------------------|-----------|----------------------------|-----------|------------------------------------|
| | Frequency | Collocation | Frequency | Collocation | Frequency | Collocation | Frequency | Collocation | Frequency | Collocation | Frequency | Collocation | Frequency | Collocation |
| 2-gram | 36 | I can | 32 | I can | 64 | I can | 41 | I can you | 64 | I can | 69 | I can | 51 | going to |
| | 36 | talk time | 32 | fun time | 64 | fun time | 45 | challenge time | 49 | can you | 49 | want to | 49 | do you |
| | 36 | attention time | 14 | do you | 34 | the talks | 24 | how many | 22 | how many | 48 | interested in | 38 | make pairs |
| | 36 | new topic | 13 | I like | 31 | in pairs | 21 | want to | 24 | do you | 45 | do you | 33 | I can |
| | 36 | listen quietly | 12 | act out | 19 | act out | 16 | what time | 16 | in pairs | 30 | are you | 29 | action time |
| 3-gram | 19 | can you | 10 | in pairs | 23 | are you | 19 | I see | 16 | this morning | 27 | if I | 28 | fill in |
| | 19 | Peter Piper | 9 | your eyes | 22 | do you | 18 | see you | 16 | a little | 26 | made of | 22 | want to |
| | 18 | Eency Weency | 8 | are you | 16 | talk time | 12 | by yourself | 13 | how much | 24 | I could | 19 | your partner |
| | 17 | what's this | 8 | talk time | 15 | I like | 12 | go to | 13 | last year | 22 | fill in | 17 | listen to |
| | 17 | | | | 12 | this is | 10 | you see | 13 | I like | 22 | would you | 16 | did you |
| 4-gram | 36 | listen and say | 13 | listen and say | 18 | listen and point | 18 | I see you | 20 | I can read | 48 | I want to | 26 | fill in the |
| | 36 | listen and point | 9 | listen and point | 14 | listen and say | 11 | go to bed | 12 | I can say | 23 | if I could | 20 | do you think |
| | 36 | individual attention time | 8 | rhythms and sounds | 13 | I can act | 11 | I want to | 11 | do you have | 19 | I can say | 17 | read the story |
| | 36 | in the picture | 7 | do you have | 12 | practice the talks | 10 | I can chant | 10 | can you write | 17 | I'm interested in | 15 | amazing facts about |
| | 21 | she'll be coming | 7 | talk in pairs | 12 | with a partner | 10 | want to be | 9 | a healthy life | 16 | if you could | 14 | I can read |
| 5-gram | 19 | on the bus | 7 | listen and write | 10 | to meet you | 10 | I grow up | 8 | give your opinion | 15 | use the hints | 10 | we're going to |
| | 18 | Eency Weency spider | 7 | to meet you | 10 | I can sing | 10 | the magic finger | 8 | listen and read | 14 | I'm most interested | 9 | I want to |
| | | | 6 | do you like | 10 | I can say | 8 | listen and practice | 8 | beat a partner | 14 | what would you | 9 | answer the questions |
| | | | 6 | I can sing | 10 | listen and find | 8 | ask your partner | 8 | my own pictures | 13 | I can read | 9 | do you know |
| | | | | I can act | 10 | point and say | 8 | you see me | 8 | with my opinion | | | | |
| 6-gram | 36 | find the hidden letters | 8 | act out the talks | 20 | act out the talks | 10 | I want to be | 7 | live a healthy life | 13 | I'm most interested in | 10 | what do you think |
| | 36 | listen quietly and think | 7 | nice to meet you | 12 | I can act out | 10 | what time do you | 7 | add my own pictures | 10 | if I could be | 8 | do you want to |
| | 16 | rain rain go away | | | 8 | what are you doing | 8 | use the magic finger | 7 | do it in pairs | 9 | I want to go | 8 | chat with your teacher |
| | 16 | a dog says bow-wow | | | 6 | how do you spell | 6 | you go to bed | 7 | read and then listen | 9 | I want to do | 7 | answer three questions about |
| | | | | | | | 6 | When I grow up | 6 | what would you like | 8 | the highest temperature is | 7 | your teacher and friends |
| 7-gram | | | | | | | 6 | do you want to | 8 | do you want to | 8 | what would you do | 7 | going to the zoo |
| | | | | | | | | thank you very much | | | | | 6 | write a short essay |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | 7 | say two amazing facts |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | 7 | with your teacher and friends |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | 7 | read the story by yourself |
| 8-gram | | | | | | | | | | | | | 6 | answer three questions about it |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | 6 | what do you think about |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | 6 | the story using the pictures |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | 6 | write a short essay about |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | 6 | chat with your teacher and friends |
| 9-gram | | | | | | | | | | | | | 7 | read the story to each other |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10-gram | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

3. まとめ

本研究では、コーパス言語学の観点から Oxford 社の児童英語テキスト *WE CAN* のレベル S からレベル 6 に見られる語彙および単語連鎖の抽出作業を行い、それらに基づいたリストを提示した。実際の児童英語活動の現場で用いられているテキストを利用し、このような語彙や単語連鎖のリストを作成できたことは、今後の英語活動において、どのような語彙や定型表現（コロケーション）を、どの段階の活動に取り入れて行くかを考える際の一助となろう。

語彙リストからは、各レベルで継続的に用いられる語彙や、あるレベルだけに登場する語彙が明らかになった。また、子どもたちの英語活動に利用できる語彙の種類を知ることにもできる。N-gram リストからは、これまで児童用英語コーパスにおいて余り扱われてこなかった定型表現やフレーズに注目したことで、語彙レベルだけでなく、ひとかたまりのフレーズの使用傾向を知ることができ、子どもたちを対象とした英語活動のために有効な言語資料ができたと言える。

今回は、英語教育研究グループの初級英語教材に用いられる語彙・定型表現に関する研究のための基礎調査として、語彙と単語連鎖の抽出作業とリスト作成のみを行なったが、今後は、このデータを更に精査し、頻度上位の語彙の品詞による分類やそれらの使用傾向の特徴を分析したいと考えている。

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